

GRANTS PASS HIGH SCHOOL NEWS BREAK

Fall 2018

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Principal's Message

Dear Parents:

Welcome back to school! We are excited to begin the 2018-19 school year at Grants Pass High School.

A special welcome to all our new families. We are excited to greet all students in just a couple of weeks.

Please plan on having your student stay until 3:14 each day. Tuesday afternoon's last period is Intervention Time. As students are requested from teachers to attend this class period, it will be required for them to attend. We also provide plenty of spaces for students to work on homework during this time.

Our staff read a book over the summer; The Resilience Breakthrough, by Christian Moore. This book gives information on how to develop resilience. Couldn't we all use more of that? The hope is we can help our students develop more resilience. Mr. Moore will be the guest speaker at our all-district employee welcome meeting this year.

We have several new teachers to introduce this year. Victoria Zhu will be teaching math. She is a Grants Pass HS graduate. Arianna Pratt will be teaching Language Arts. Martin Codino will be teaching Health Science. KJ Johnson will be teaching in our Transitions program. Tim Bartelt will be our English Language Learner teacher. Brendan Linderman will be teaching Computer Science. Joanna Hotchkiss will be helping teach in our Life Skills classroom. Our new Assistant Principal that will oversee Curriculum and Instruction is Kara Rhodes. Please join me in welcoming them to Grants Pass High School.

I will be emailing updates on some new school initiatives this year over the coming weeks. Please make sure you email address is up to date in our system.

With many activities, I encourage you as always to check out website for updates. Please plan on joining us for our Back to School Night on Wednesday September 19 at 6:00pm in the Performing Arts Center.

Our first day of school for freshmen only is Tuesday September 4. All other students will report Wednesday September 5. We look forward to seeing you soon! Go Cavemen!

Ryan Thompson

Principal, GPHS

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

September 4th - Freshmen Only and September 5th - All Students 9-12

Students begin arriving at 7:30 a.m. and need to go to the Quad Area. They will be met by Student Leaders and Staff who will welcome all freshmen to Grants Pass High School. They will be assigned to a small group escorted by a pair of Student Leaders. Throughout the day, students will participate in a variety of planned activities: receive a tour of campus, meet teachers during abbreviated classes, get their books & schedules, purchase PE clothes, dots, & pictures taken (optional, but all students will be photographed for their student ID cards), review the student handbook, and meet new classmates. During lunch in the quad, students can gather information about the clubs and sports GP offers. September 5th all students will be attending all classes. Friday, September 7th will be picture day for all students. **Wednesday, September 5th WILL NOT be a late start Wednesday.**

Freshmen have a **closed campus** for lunch first semester. They can earn the privilege of open campus second semester by passing all of their classes, maintain good attendance, and have no discipline issues. **On behalf of the GPHS Staff, welcome to GP.**

Here is a list of what you need to bring the first day:

Backpack, paper and pencils/pens, notebooks

\$18 for P.E. Clothes

\$20 for Student Body Dots (Optional)

(make checks to GPHS #7 w/ Student ID # and ONE check may be made payable to GPHS to pay for both)

Picture Money, if ordering 9th – 12th grades Friday (Checks to Lifetouch per order form)

(All students are photographed for student ID cards at no charge)

Appropriate attire (similar to middle school dress code)

All Students will receive their schedules the 1st day of school.

Schedule changes will be made **ONLY** with administrative approval and only if it meets the needs of the student's educational plan.

Note from the Counseling Office

We are working on your schedule and balancing all classes. If you have a change to your schedule that needs to be made, please email your counselor or stop by the school on assigned 'Drop In' days: Seniors, Monday, August 27th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m, Juniors, Wednesday, August 29th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and then for sophomores and freshman, Thursday, August 30th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Counseling Office will have a sign in sheet and students will be called in on a first-come first-serve basis. **Lockers** have been assigned to all Freshman. Any other student who would like a locker may stop by the Office anytime and fill out a Locker Request form.

Medication Policy

Any medications (prescription, aspirin, etc.) your student may need must be brought in by the parent, and a medication form filled out. This should be done at the Attendance Office, Room 172.

Dress Code at GPHS

Student dress impacts the learning environment. Therefore when you shop for this years' "Back to School" clothes, make sure the clothing fits the guidelines of our dress code. Some quick reminders: all underwear is always covered by the outer garment; the midriff is covered and the top is not low cut; and there are no references to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, sexual, criminal or gang activity. Specific details are outlined in the student handbook that will be given to your student during the first week of school and can be found on the school website.

Items Not Permitted on School Bus

Per Oregon Pupil Transportation Manual: Pupils shall not bring animals, weapons, or other hazardous materials on the bus. Example: Any item too big to hold on lap; bugs or insects in any container; glass objects, sharp objects, music stands; skateboards; scooters; balloons; radios or balls. (This is not a complete list. Some objects are not specifically mentioned here and prior approval is required on a case-by-case basis.)

Back To School Night

Mark your calendars now! The annual GPHS "Back To School Night" will be held on Wednesday evening, **September 19th** at **6:00 p.m.** in the **Performing Arts Center**. This evening will give you the opportunity to meet your student's teachers and discover the many exciting things that are happening at GPHS this year.

Report Card/Progress Report Notice

Your student will receive their Progress Report via mail at the end of each semester (February & June). In order to receive your child's quarterly Progress Report in November & April, you must either attend conferences or come by the school to pick it up. Thank you for taking notice of this policy.

Student Insurance

Myers-Stevens & Toohey Co. is a Student Accident Insurance. This insurance is available at GPHS. If you are involved with a sport or student activity (off campus) you are *required* to carry insurance. Pick up a form from the Athletic Office.

Parking

Visitor Parking: The following lots are designated for visitors: The area directly across from the Core Building on 9th Street; the area south of the District Office on the "home" side of Mel Ingram Field; and 1/2 of the lot between Dean and 8th facing the District Office.

Student Drop Off: Parents who bring students to school are asked to drop their students off in *any* GPHS parking lot. Grants Pass Police Department has asked us to remind you that **9th Street** is posted as a "**NO PARKING**" area for traffic safety reasons.

Student Parking: Seniors may begin buying permits August 28th at 8:00 a.m. Students will need to fill out a parking registration form and sign a parking rules form. Students need to bring their driver's license, license plate number and proof of insurance policy card. The price is \$25 for the school year. Students will need to pay the Bookkeeper and return the receipt to Renae (security), you will then be given a permit to put in your car.

****If you have an outstanding ticket from last year, you need to pay the ticket before you will be issued a parking permit.**

If your information is not complete, you cannot purchase a parking permit. Students **MAY NOT** reserve a spot. **NO EARLY SALES.** During the 2nd week of school, juniors may buy permits. Any questions check with Renae.

Parent Curriculum Council

The purpose of the "Curriculum Council" is to provide an opportunity for members of our school community to collaborate - where appropriate - in solving problems, defining goals, and shaping direction of the district. Parents have been selected to represent each school in the district and serve as voting members. The meeting is an open meeting and parents are invited to attend. Please call 541-474-5709 for more information. Meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Boardroom at 507 NE Dean Dr.

Volunteers

Citizens who voluntarily contribute their time and talents to the improvement and enrichment of the public schools' instructional and other programs are **valuable assets**. The Board encourages constructive participation of groups and individuals in the school to perform appropriate tasks during- and after-school hours under the direction and supervision of professional personnel. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the front office.

Volunteers returning to the service of our district are required to participate in **annual training** regarding confidentiality, child abuse, and sexual misconduct reporting. Training information is located on the district website under "parent/community resources."